

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-27 (Cancelled)

28. (New) A wheelbarrow comprising an electric motor with a mechanical coupling to a wheel, the electric motor controlled to selectively drive the wheel when required and allow that wheel to freely rotate when not driven by the electric motor.

29. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 28 wherein the electric motor is controlled by a switch.

30. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 29 wherein the switch is of a hold to sustain operation type, to allow an operator to determine whether the wheel is driven or not.

31. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 28 wherein the electric motor is controlled by a status sensor.

32. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 31 wherein the status sensor senses wheelbarrow speed and/or barrow load and/or travel angle in order to determine whether the wheel is driven.

33. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 28 wherein the electric motor is detachable.

34. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 28 wherein the mechanical coupling is a chain or belt between the wheel and the electric motor.

35. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 28 wherein the wheel has a sprocket cog for mechanical coupling from the electric motor.

36. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 35 wherein the sprocket cog is sized relative to a drive cog coupled to

the electric motor such that there is appropriate mechanical advantage to enable the wheel to be driven.

37. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 36 wherein the mechanical advantage between the sprocket cog and the drive cog may be altered by a user.

38. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 37 wherein the electric motor is coupled to a detachable electrical battery.

39. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 38 wherein the electrical battery is rechargeable.

40. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 28 wherein the electric motor and/or any electrical battery are held in waterproof mountings.

41. (New) A wheelbarrow as claimed in claim 28 wherein a mounting for the electric motor is able to receive motors of differing power as required by expected operational requirements.

42. (New) A drive mechanism for retro fit to a wheelbarrow, the mechanism comprising an electric motor, a battery and mechanical coupling for coupling the electric motor to a wheel, the electric motor controlled by a control switch to allow selective driving of the wheel when required and allow relative free rotation of the wheel when not.

43. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 42 wherein the mechanism will incorporate a sprocket cog to be secured to a hub of a wheel to which the mechanical coupling is provided for coupling the motor to the wheel.

44. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 42 wherein an electric motor is fitted in a suitable position to allow a drive train to be connected to the wheel of the wheelbarrow.

45. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 44 wherein the drive train can consist of two sprockets, one with a small sprocket and a ratchet system fitted to the centre (similar to a bicycle free rear wheel).

46. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 44 wherein the drive train is fitted to a shaft of a gearbox which is driven by an electric motor.

47. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 42 wherein a larger sprocket is fixed to the shaft attached to the wheel on a wheelbarrow, or directly onto the side of the wheel.

48. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 45 wherein a chain is fitted between the two sprockets to enable the electric motor to drive the wheel on the wheelbarrow.

49. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 42 wherein a rechargeable battery is fitted on the underside of the wheelbarrow and this can be of a plug in type so that as one battery is exhausted a second battery, which has been charged, can be plugged into a socket which connects it to suitable electrical switchgear.

50. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 49 wherein the battery can then be connected to a bell type press switch which is fitted adjacent to one of the handles of the wheelbarrow.

51. (New) A mechanism as claimed in claim 50 wherein when the bell switch is pressed contact is made through wiring to the electric motor.